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**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference R. 303575 St/Oy	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/DE 03/00291	International filing date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 02/03/2003	Priority date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 07/27/2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC  B60Q9/00		
Applicant ROBERT BOSCH GMBH et al.		
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>6</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>		

Date of submission of the demand 07/16/2003	Date of completion of this report 10/27/2004
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/  Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Sallard, F  Telephone No.

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/DE 03/00291

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))  
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)  
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages 1-11 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

the claims:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages\* 1-4 \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on 09/07/2004

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

the drawings:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* 1/5-5/5 \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on 09/07/2004

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_  
 the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_  
 the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_  
 the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_  
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_  
 the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_  
 the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_  
 the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_  
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.

PCT/DE 03/00291

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-4</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	<u>1-4</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-4</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

see Annex

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY International File Reference PCT/DE 03/00291  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SUPPLEMENTARY PAGE

Re Item V

- 1) Reference is made to the following documents:  
D1: EP-A-0 633 155 (AUTO POLLY GMBH)  
D2: US-A-5 627 752 (KNOERZER GUENTHER ET AL)  
D3: US-A-3 982 510 (VAN OSTROM DAVID L)  
D4: DE 196 20 929 A (PORSCHE AG)
- 2) The present application does not fulfill the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT because the subject matter of Claims 1-3 and 4 is not based on inventive activity in the sense of Article 33(3).
- 3) Document D3, which is regarded as the most proximate related art, discloses a method from which the subject matter of Claim 1 differs in that the haptic signaling is ascertained as a function of the consumption per unit of distance.

The objective to be achieved by the present application can thus be seen to lie in ascertaining the haptic signaling in another manner.

Since D3 discloses a characteristics function, which ascertains the haptic signaling as a function of the pressure of the mixing chamber of the engine, one skilled in the art generally knows that this pressure is directly related to the consumption per unit of distance (see also D3, column 1, lines 13-16 and 31-40). Thus the ascertainment of the haptic signaling as a function of a consumption per unit of distance is merely an alternative

variant which one skilled in the art would select without inventive activity.

The subject matter of Claim 1 thus is not based on an inventive activity and thus does not fulfill the criterion specified in Article 33(3) PCT.

- 4) The same reasoning holds correspondingly for the independent Claim 4. The subject matter of Claim 4 hence is not based on an inventive activity (Article 33(3) PCT).
- 5) The dependent Claims 2 and 3 do not contain any features which in combination with the features of any claim to which they relate fulfill the requirements of the PCT with regard to inventive activity since they are merely obvious possibilities from which one skilled in the art would select without inventive activity in accordance with the circumstances.
- 6) Note: Contrary to the requirements of rule 5.1 a) ii) PCT, neither the relevant related art disclosed in documents D1-D4 nor these documents are mentioned in the description.

New Claims

1. A method for signaling several items of information relevant for operating a motor vehicle, different items of information being represented by unambiguous haptic signals, particularly having a maximum, at different positions of a control element (1) of the vehicle, particularly an accelerator pedal, different items of information being formed by different fuel consumption values, the different fuel consumption values being respectively represented by a characteristic of the haptic signal on the control element (1), particularly a saw-tooth-shaped characteristic, having a maximum at the associated position of the control element, wherein the haptic signaling is ascertained as a function of a consumption per unit of distance using a characteristics function.
2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein at least one fuel consumption value to be signaled is specified using an input unit (15).
3. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the haptic signaling is formed by a restoring force acting on the control element (1).
4. A device (5) for signaling several items of information relevant for operating a motor vehicle, means being provided for representing different items of information by unambiguous haptic signals, particularly having a maximum, at different positions of a control element (1) of the vehicle, particularly an accelerator pedal, different items

of information being formed by different fuel consumption values, the different fuel consumption values being respectively represented by a characteristic of the haptic signal on the control element (1), particularly a saw-tooth-shaped characteristic, having a maximum at the associated position of the control element, wherein a characteristics function (105) is provided, which ascertains the haptic signaling as a function of a consumption per unit of distance.

Translation of Terms in the Figures:

$M_{sonst}$  =  $M_{other}$

$F_{fbges}$  =  $F_{fbtotal}$

$M_{ENGsoll}$  =  $M_{ENGsetpoint}$

$M_{sollges}$  =  $M_{setpointtotal}$

$F_{fbsonst}$  =  $F_{fbother}$

Spez. Verbrauch = Specific consumption

U/min = RPM

$w_{pedsonst}$  =  $w_{pedother}$